

# Early Adjournment Of Lawmakers Fades

By VINCENT THOMAS  
Assemblyman, 68th District

As you read this only a few days will be left in the 1962 budget session. The main item, the budget itself, will be getting its last touches. Its total will be about the same, around \$2.9 billion. But some things will have been cut out, others added. Some people will be satisfied at what happened to their pet projects, others not. We will have almost finished our big job of providing the money to run our vast state next year. The one-third of us who had the tough task of sitting in hearings for long hours every day have heaved a collective sigh of relief. So have the squads of fiscal experts from operating departments, the budget division, and our own legislative analyst's office who probed or defended everything requested.

most important are raising quite some heat. Much pressure is also being exerted to have still other subjects added to the agenda, such as the powers of the highway commission to locate freeways over local opposition, which also could be difficult to handle.

**MOST TALKED** about issue is probably Senate reapportionment. Tight battle-lines are being drawn together on the matter. North versus South, urban versus rural blocs are developing, and testing each other's strength. Indications are that there could be a prolonged struggle over this problem. A constitutional amendment containing the proposals of the special study commission to give more Senators to Los Angeles soon has just been introduced.

**BUT THE BUDGET** process is not completed until the Governor has signed the bill. Under our California constitution he has the right to cut any item he chooses, before signing. He cannot raise any, however.

So we can all rest assured that the many vital services performed by our state government will be continued, even expanded to meet next year's needs. Our top-flight education system of schools, colleges and University will keep on giving our young people the highest quality of training. Our social welfare and public health programs will be much improved. All our natural resources activities, from fish and game to water conservation, will benefit from the funds granted them in the new budget we have labored to produce.

Another fierce tug-of-war is building up over whether all the \$920 million in proposed state bonds should be put on the November ballot, or whether about half the total should go on the June primary ballot. This tussle has developed a strong partisan politics angle. The heaviest weapons in both arsenals are being leveled at opponents.

**THE DRAW** poker deal promises to produce some interesting games for us. Some irreverent wit has said that each of us ought to be able to draw any five bills on this problem from the stack of them in front of us, and stand a fair chance of holding the winning bill. But those who take the abolition or limitation of the game seriously are busy lining up support for their preferred measure.

**THOUGH OUR** budget session ran close to schedule, prospects for getting out of the special session at the same time to not look too good as I write this. Present thinking seems to be generally that it will not be possible to close the special session before April 8th. The 15th, or even later, is considered much more likely.

We are anxious to get the special session over soon, but it looks like a tough job to do fast.

Albert W. Burns, chief gunner's mate, son of Mrs. Jack Woolman of 5028 Laurette and Leban R. White, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. White of 3610 W. 225th St. are serving aboard ships which participated in Exercise Pot Shot off the coast of Southern California recently.

While most of the topics on the agenda for this session are



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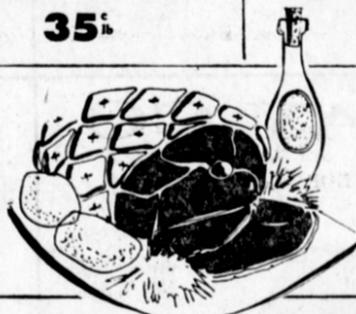
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